TAMIL NADU

Administration: Thiru L.M. Vasagam, I.A.S., took charge of the post of Commissioner of Archives and Historical Research, in the afternoon of 25th May 1975 from Thiru Badrinath. Thiru S.Singarajan, who was appointed as Special Officer in the Secretariat was reposted as Director of Archives in August 1975.

The Government has approved the scheme of reorganisation of the Tamil Nadu Archives. In addition to one Librarian (Gazetted), two Assistant Librarians and twelve Library Assistants have also been sanctioned. The question of filling up of the posts with suitable persons are under consideration. Proposals for additional staff for Research Hall, Publication, Preparation of reference media, and Reconstitution of Regional Committee for Survey of Historical Records were approved by the Government under Part II Scheme which are expected to be implemented from October 1976. Proposals for the Organisation of Regional Repositories, obtaining microfilm equipments, air-conditioning of the stacks etc., are being drawn up.

Budget: During 1975-76 a sum of Rs.11,99,695.00 was spent out of a budget provision of Rs.14,81,000.00 on the non-plan side. There was no provision in the budget on the plan side. For 1976-77 a budget provision of Rs.13,83,000.00 was made on the non-plan side. No provision was made on the plan side.

At present all items of expenditure are under non-plan items and met from out of annual budget allocations made under the head "278-Arts and Culture - Archives and Museums - AA. Tamil Nadu Archives." The excess budget provision in the year 1975-76 was made for purchasing machineries viz., Vacuum Fumigation Chamber and Lamination Machine etc. But these could not be improved due to various reasons. The machines are being obtained in 1976-77 for which necessary appropriation will be obtained.

Buildings: Government have sanctioned the construction of a building for accommodatingthe Vacuum Fumigation Chamber and the Lamination Machine at a cost of Rs.2.87 lakhs.

Record Management: Nothing new to be added to what was reported last time.

Research and Reference: 143 research scholars availed themselves of research facilities. 50,740 records were requisitioned by the Government agencies and research scholars. 1,267 queries on records were attended to during the period under report.

The Tamil Nadu Council of Historical Research constituted in 1973 for two years is in the process of being reconstituted.

Reference Media and Publication Programme: The proposals for the preparation of reference media, and for organising a publication cell were approved by the Government under Part II Scheme. The schemes are expected to be executed during the course of the year.

Preservation of Records: 896 sheets of records were repaired with tissue paper and acetate foil, 97,186 sheets repaired with chiffon, 83,157 sheets guarded and 2,124 volumes, books and registers bound.

Photo-Duplication: The State Archives has no microfilm unit of its own.

Library: 890 books were acquired during the year under reference. The programme for the reorganisation of the library was approved by the Government. The question of appointing a Librarian and supporting staff is under consideration.